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Atty. Dkt. No. 062834-0104

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: George Harry Hoffman et al.
Title: SYSTEM, METHOD AND COMPUTER PROGRAM
PRODUCT FOR USE OF BAR CODES IN A SUPPLY
CHAIN MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK
Appl. No.: 09/815,580
Filing Date: 03/23/2001
Examiner: Ahshik Kim
Art Unit: 2876

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability, as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

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TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(c), before the mailing date of either a final action under 37 CFR §1.113, a notice of allowance under 37 CFR §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

The foregoing documents were cited in the International Search Report in Applicants' International Application PCT/US02/08287. A copy of the International Search Report is attached setting forth the portion of each document considered relevant by the examiner.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

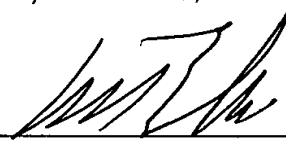
STATEMENT

The undersigned hereby states in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1) that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to filing of this Statement.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

By



William T. Ellis
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 26,874

Date September 12, 2002

FOLEY & LARDNER
Customer Number: 22428

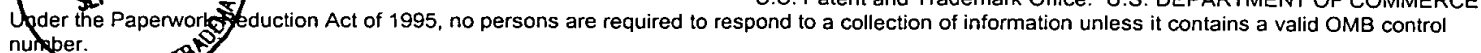


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Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO

Date Submitted: September 12, 2002

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

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Complete if Known

Application Number	09/815,580
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Filing Date	03/23/2001
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First Named Inventor	George Harry Hoffman et al.
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Group Art Unit	2876
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Examiner Name	Ahshik Kim
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Attorney Docket Number	062834-0104
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

5Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. 6Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231**